



State of Connecticut

Volume 4, Issue 1

Winter 2002

Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs Commission

Committed to coordinating and providing access to resources...

for the advancement of the Latino & Puerto Rican communities

Message from the Chairperson, Carlos Vázquez



Dear Friends of LPRAC:

Welcome to our first issue of the newsletter for this calendar year. I would like to take this time to express our heartfelt sadness for what happened to our country on September 11, 2001. The tragic scenes of

that day are with us each and every day. We at the Commission discussed how best to go about honoring the memory of those who were lost and those who were left grieving on September 11th. We agreed that we would participate as much as possible

with a variety of organizations that mobilized to get volunteers, blood, clothing and other items to the affected areas. In addition, the Commission participated in various vigils held throughout the State including the one held at St. Peter's Church and St. Joseph's Cathedral, two Hartford churches, and at the Legislature. We endeavor to make sure that any legislation enacted will ensure the safety and security of this great state for its entire population. We were attacked by cowardice but we remain standing and we have become one much more patriotic nation. God Bless America!

The Commission has participated in a variety of activities. We celebrated a very suc-

cessful Fourth Annual Gala Awards Banquet on September 29, 2001. Over 600 individuals attended the event. We honored a Latina Citizen of the Year, Bessy Reyna; Latino Citizen of the Year, Gilberto Hernández; Promesa Youth Awardee, Sgt. Geanabelle Martínez Bermúdez; and a Community Service Award recipient, the Connecticut Association of Latin Americans in Higher Education (CALAHE). In addition, we honored three Hartford Firefighters for their bravery in the face of imminent danger. Firefighters Rafael Díaz, Pedro Ramos and Luis Salvador received special recognition for having saved the lives of two children in two separate incidents.

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State Boards and Commissions Forum

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission in conjunction with the African American Affairs Commission, the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women and DemocracyWorks held a number of forums throughout the year regarding Diversity on State Boards and Commissions. This year's focus with this project will be to work collaboratively with these same boards and commissions to encourage the use of the talent banks maintained by the 3 Commissions in order to seek out qualified candidates to serve. If you are interested in serving on a State Board or Commission, please contact any one of the staff members of the various commissions for information on how to go about submitting your name for consideration. The staffpersons are as follows: Lucy Goicoechea-Hernández, Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commis-

sion - 860-240-8330; Cheryl Harris Forbes, African American Affairs Commission - 860-240-8555; Barbara Potopowicz of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women - 860-240-8300. The other two partners on

this project are Joyce Hamilton of DemocracyWorks and Shannon Perry of the National Conference for Community and Justice. Another focus of the project will be the development of a speakers bureau.

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NEWSLETTER

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Message from Executive Director, Fernando Betancourt



Dear Friends:
 Welcome to this, our first issue of the newsletter for 2002. I want to take a moment to reflect upon what happened to the country this past September 11th. We were taken by sur-

prise by this act of cowardice. We at the Commission joined with the country in honoring the memory of those lost or affected by these cowardly acts on September 11th through the many vigils held statewide including those at the Capitol, at local churches and other institutions. We will make sure that any legislation presented during this upcoming legislative session related to these terrorist attacks, that are beneficial to our State population as a whole, will have the utmost support of this Commission.

LPRAC has been involved in numerous projects throughout the past six months. Our most impressive event was our annual Gala Awards Banquet held on Saturday, September 29, 2001. We had over 600 people in attendance that evening. Also in attendance were elected officials such as Senate Majority Leader George Jepsen, Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz and Representatives Evelyn Mantilla, Lydia Martínez and Felipe Reinoso. The award recipients were selected from an outstanding group of nomi-

nees. We selected Ms. Bessy Reyna Latina Citizen of the Year for 2001; Mr. Gilberto Hernández, Latino Citizen of the Year; Sgt. Geanabelle Martínez Bermúdez, Promesa Youth Award winner; and the Connecticut Association of Latin Americans in Higher Education (CALAHE) received the Community Service award. We also recognized 3 Latino Firefighters from The Hartford Fire Department who saved the lives of two children in two separate fires in Hartford during the spring and summer 2001. They are: Firefighters Rafael Díaz, Pedro Ramos and Luis Salvador. I congratulate them and all of the award winners.

We participated in a variety of Hispanic Heritage celebrations including our own in conjunction with the Connecticut National Guard, United States Postal Service and the Connecticut Historical Society. We held a celebration of our culture and heritage on Wednesday, October 10th at the Connecticut Historical Society. We celebrated outstanding academic achievement awards received by 3 Connecticut public school students. They are: Melissa Jacques from East Hartford High School, Sujeilly Rivera from Burns School in Hartford and Johnattan A. Leon from West Rocks Middle School in Norwalk. Sgt. Ivan Anglero of the Connecticut Air National Guard sang the Star Spangled Banner. At the end of the ceremony we partook of some Latino food and music. I am grateful to these organizations for celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with LPRAC.

Commission staff has also been

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IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER

COMMISSION MEETINGS

ARE HELD EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY

OF EACH MONTH AT THE

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, SUITE 2600

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

5:30 PM -- 8:00 PM

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED



Juan L. Cruz - United States Postal Service Rep

By Lucy Goicoechea-Hernández

Juan is currently assigned as a Labor Relations Specialist and serves as a management advocate.

Juan L. Cruz was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey. At the age of four, his parents moved to the Island of Puerto Rico where he lived until he was twenty-one years old. He grew up working on a farm where he cultivated coffee, bananas and many other fruits. After graduating from the Gabriela Mistral High School located in Castañer-Lares Puerto Rico, he attended the University Of Puerto Rico located in Utuado. He earned an Associates Degree in Food Science and at the age of 21 he moved to Hartford, Connecticut. In 1992, he joined the United States Army Reserve and became a Military Police Officer. In 1998, he joined Drill Sergeant School #3 at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, where he trained to become a Drill Sergeant. He graduated on November 6, 1999 and currently holds that position.

Juan has been involved in multiple civic, social, and religious organizations including Council 11010 of the Knights of Columbus in Hartford where he held the position of Grand Knight for two years. He is also a member of the Springfield Pioneer Table Ten-

nis League, Organización de Puertorriqueños Unidos, and the Hispanic Professional Network of Connecticut.

Juan works for the United States Postal Service starting as a City Letter Carrier in 1994. In 1997 he was promoted to Customer Service Supervisor and in 1998 he was promoted to the position of Hispanic Program Specialist for New England and Upstate New York (Northeast Area). Currently, he is assigned as a Labor Relations Specialist for the Northeast Area, where he serves as a management advocate.

Juan has received letters of appreciation from the National United States Postal Service's Vice President of Diversity Development for Hispanic recruitment progress in the State of Connecticut, where the Postal Service workforce currently mirrors the Hispanic civilian labor force. He also received national recognition for his contributions to the National Affirmative Employment Plan and Report in the year 2000. He has received numerous spot awards for his contributions to the Northeast Area and he has also contributed to

numerous task forces, such as the Interactive Voice Response System, where he designed a special guideline to facilitate the caller's pre-employment registration process throughout the nation. Juan also earned his certification as a Global Career Development Facilitator (CDF) in 1999 from the Graduate School of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Juan was nominated and selected to become a member of the prestigious Library of Congress' Who's Who Historical Society. He is a full time undergraduate student at Springfield College and will graduate on May 12, 2002.

Juan is happily married to Joanna E. Colón, who has been his most precious support for the last eleven years.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The **Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services' Community Mental Health Center** is currently looking for a **Nurse Clinician** for its Hispanic Clinic based in New Haven, Connecticut. The salary for this position is \$1,928 bi-weekly. Submit an updated resume to: Miriam Lopez, Human Resources, Community Mental Health Center, 34 Park Street, New Haven, CT 06519 or fax it to her at 203-974-7637. You can also email the information to Ms. Lopez at miriam.lopez@po.state.ct.us. The deadline for application is May 9, 2002.

The **Town of West Hartford** is looking for an **Librarian III**. The salary range for this position is \$55,250 to \$69,576. If you are interested in this position, please contact the Department of Employee Services, Room 414, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, West Hartford or call 860-523-3220 Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. You may also visit the Town website at www.west-hartford.com. Position is open until sufficient pool of qualified applicants has been collected.

The **Town of West Hartford** is currently recruiting **Firefighters**. The salary range is \$38,079-\$47,998. The deadline for application is April 30, 2002. You must be at least 18 years of age, are a high school graduate, have a Connecticut Driver's License and must live within 30 minutes' drive of the headquarters by time of appointment. A \$20 non-refundable application fee is required at the time your application is submitted. For more information on these positions, please go to the web site at: www.west-hartford.com

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission maintains a bulletin board with postings received from State and community agencies. Feel free to contact Tersee Flores, Legislative Secretary at 860-240-8330 to learn more.

The Little Engine That Could A "Toastmasters Club" Success Story

By Raúl Rodríguez, Commissioner

In one year, the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission Toastmasters Club, District 53, Club Number 3350 went from 10 members to 24 and obtained distinguished club status with 9 out of 10 distinguished club points. This is the story of how we achieved our goals.

CLUB HISTORY:

Our club was formed in December 1997, when David Busanet, our first club president, thought of creating a bilingual toastmasters club. This toastmasters club would provide Spanish & English speakers with a way to develop their public speaking skills in a friendly and encouraging atmosphere.

With the assistance of other Area B Toastmasters Clubs, including, Hartford Steam Boilers, Joel Garcia, Demonsthenes, Mary Ryndingsward, Capitol Avenue, Ann Smith & Jackie Morrill, and Voice of Hartford, Bonnie Lebron and Julia Serrano, we set out to achieve charter strength, which is 20 members.

In March 1999 we reached charter strength and received our club charter. After a few months, most of the dual members returned to their clubs. Our membership dwindled to six members. At many meetings we only had five members. Our club was on a respirator.

It is a testament to our second president, Bonnie Lebron, Ann Smith, Ruth Espinosa and Julia Serrano that our club is still in existence.

When I became president in July 2000, we learned about the Distinguished Club Program. As you may be aware Toastmasters International has a club rating system. To be a Distinguished Club, you need 5 out of 10 points from the Distinguished Club Program. To be a Select Distinguished Club you need 7 out of 10 points, and to be a Presidents Distinguished Club you need 9 out of 10 points. Achieving Distinguished Club status is not only good for your club, but it is also good for the District. With each club that achieves Distinguished Club status, our district comes closer to achieving Distinguished District status.

We set four (4) goals for ourselves: to become a Distinguished Club; to reach charter strength by June 2001, to hold special events; and to compete in speech contests. We sat down and wrote our Distinguished Club Plan.

- Our first point would come from having four (4) officers attend officers training in the spring and fall officer training seminars. We sent 6 officers to each training.
- Our second point would come from sending our List of Officers and our Semi Annual Reports on time into Toastmasters International.
- Our third point would come from Ann Smith and myself receiving our CTM's by December 31, 2000.
- Our fourth point would come from Ann Smith or myself receiving our CL by June 30, 2001
- And our fifth point would come from having four more members join our club. In fact, we had 14 new members join our club.

The vehicle we used to increase our membership was our special events. Because we are the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission Toastmasters Club, we wanted to hold special events that would spice up our club. As Chef Emeril from the Food Channel would say, BAM!!!, we are going to kick it up a notch!!!

In October, November, and December 2000 we held our Distinguished Speakers Series.

We had Lt. Governor Jody Rell, State Comptroller, Nancy Wyman, Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz, State Representative Paul Doyle and the Executive Director of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission, Fernando Betancourt as our guest speakers.

We published notice of the events over the internet and in the Hartford Courant. Two of the events were televised on the Connecticut Television Network throughout the state. Our membership increased and we achieved charter strength.

We decided that our club would compete in speech competitions such as

today's to show case the quality of the Toastmasters Communication and Leadership Program in our club. Also, speech competitions are a wonderful way to meet other toastmasters and observe accomplished public speakers.

In conclusion, the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission Toastmasters Club reminds me of a familiar children's story entitled the "Little Engine that Could". If you will recall in that story a train that was carrying toys, food and candies for the little children over the mountain broke down. A large passenger train passed by and refused to help. A large engineering train passed by and refused to help. It was a switching train that agreed to help. And as the switching train went up the hill it kept saying "I think I can, I think I can." And after the switching train achieved its goal, it kept saying "I thought I could, I thought I could, I thought I could."

If we can achieve Distinguished Club status, then other clubs can do so too. As long as they set the goal to be a Distinguished Club and prepare a written plan it should be doable.



David Busanet, Founder and first President of the LPRAC Toastmasters Club receives an award from current President, Ruth Espinosa.

HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission in collaboration with the Connecticut National Guard, the Connecticut Historical Society and the United States Postal Service held an awards ceremony to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. The event was held at the Society on Wednesday, October 10, 2001.

The ceremony was the brainchild of the Connecticut National Guard in conjunction with the United States Postal Service. This is the third year that the event is held. Three students from area schools were recognized for their achievements - they are: Elementary - Ms. Sugeilly Rivera, D.F. Burns School, Hartford; Middle School - Mr. Johnattan A. Leon, West Rocks Middle School, Norwalk; and High School - Ms. Melissa Jacques, East Hartford High School. The two young ladies were present to receive their awards from Brigadier General I. J. Zembrzuski of the Connecticut National Guard and Kathleen Felsted of the United States Postal Service. The ceremony began with the Honor Guard of the Connecticut National Guard followed by the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner by Technical Sergeant Ivan Anglero of the Connecticut Air National Guard. Father Michael Galasso of St. Peter's Church in Hartford did the invocation. The Second Company Governor's Foot Guard presented the Flag Ceremony.

The keynote speaker was Fernando Betancourt, Executive Director of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission. His talk was very thought-provoking and eye-opening for some of the members of the audience who later requested copies of his presentation. We also heard from Ms. Constance Hightower, Director of Education at the Connecticut Historical Society who invited everyone to participate in the various activities of the Society. The Master of Ceremony for the event was Mr. Manny Rivera, Hispanic Program Specialist for the United States Postal Service.

Congratulations to all the winners and many thanks to all of the participating partners for joining with us in celebrating our history and culture.



Fernando Betancourt
LPRAC Exec. Director



**Melissa Jacques and
Sugeilly Rivera, Award
Winners**

Latino History Corner

Emilia Pardo Bazán

(1852-1921), Spain.

This most famous of contemporary writers, was born in Galicia. Her novels, short stories and literary criticism made her the most important woman writer of her generation. The *Critical Issue*, her most famous work, became a polemical essay which discussed Zola and Naturalism, made French and Russian literary movements known in Spain and started an important literary controversy in which she championed the free will of the individual.

Major FERNANDO L. RIBAS-DOMINICCI

United States Air Force. Born in Utuado, Puerto Rico, in 1952. He completed his Masters Degree in Aeronautical Science at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Bunnell, Florida, in 1985. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal in 1983. During a combat mission in an F-111F fighter bomber, he was killed off the coast of Libya in April 1986, and was posthumously promoted to the grade of Major effective April 15, 1986.

César Milstein

(1927-), Argentina. Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology, 1980.

César Milstein shared the Nobel Prize for "pioneering contributions to the theory and techniques of immunology, which were said to lay the basis for advances in medical areas such as cancer treatment and the detection of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). In work with his colleague Georges J. F. Koehler, Milstein developed the techniques for producing monoclonal antibodies, antibodies with a specific affinity for certain sites in the body that might find diseased cells but leave healthy cells intact.



L-R - Constance Hightower, Kathleen Felsted, Father Michael Galasso and Brig. Gen. I. J. Zembrzuski.

2001 Gala Awards Banquet

*by Lucy Goicoechea-Hernández
Special Projects Director*

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission celebrated its Fourth Annual Gala Awards Banquet on Saturday, September 29, 2001. The Banquet was held at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in Waterbury, Connecticut. There were over 650 Latino and non-Latino individuals from throughout the State present that evening to help celebrate the accomplishments of the award recipients for 2001.

Fernando Betancourt, Executive Director of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission served as the Master of Ceremonies. He asked the gathering to: "Please join me in observing a moment of silence in memory of those lost in the tragic events of September 11, 2001." He recognized the keynote speaker for the evening Mr.

Juan Figueroa, Esquire, President and General Counsel of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense Fund.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the annual awards. This year, we recognized Ms. Bessy Reyna of Bolton, Connecticut as the Latina Citizen of the Year. Ms. Reyna was nominated by two separate individuals for the award and comes with a distinguished list of accomplishments including her work with our youth and a host of published literary works.

The Latino Citizen of the Year for 2001 was Mr. Gilberto Hernández of Bridgeport. Mr. Hernández has over 50 years of public service to his credit. He has served the Latino community of Bridgeport in a variety of ways. He was a pioneer in many areas for his community. He established a variety of businesses and represented the Latino community in a variety of political positions including as an Alderman for the City

of Bridgeport and as a delegate to the Democratic National convention. Sergeant Geanabelle Martínez Bermúdez was selected to receive the Promesa Youth Award for 2001. She has an impressive list of accomplishments at the very young age of 23 including her military service fresh out of high school. Sgt. Bermúdez was unable to attend the banquet and her award was accepted by

her mother, Carmen Negrón and her sister, Jessica Martínez.

The Community Service Award for 2001 was presented to the Connecticut Association of Latin Americans in Higher Education (CALAHE). Mr. Domingo Arias, current President received the award from the Chairperson of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission,

Ms. Maritza Tirú. Ms. Tirú addressed the gathering earlier in the evening welcoming them to the banquet and providing an overview of the Agency's mission. Mr. Arias shared the organization's award with the rest of his membership and called each one up to the podium to be recognized.

The finale was very appropriate given the tragic events that unfolded on September 11, 2001. The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission accorded special recognition to 3 Hartford Firefighters who had selflessly on two separate occasions, risked their lives to save the lives of two children trapped in burning buildings. Those Firefighters are: Rafael Díaz, Pedro Ramos and Luis Salvador. Overall, the banquet was an outstanding success and we look forward to greeting you at our fifth annual awards in the Fall of 2002. Thank you for your support and participation.



**Américo Santiago, LPRAC ,
Edna Negrón, Puerto Rico Fed.
Affairs and Juan Figueroa Puerto
Rican Legal Defense Fund**



**Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz
and Fernando Betancourt, Exec.
Dir, LPRAC**



**Domingo Arias, Pres. CALAHE
and State Rep. Felipe Reinoso**



Miss Connecticut

L-R - Marissa Perez, Miss Connecticut & Bonnie Gagnon, Miss CT Prog. Dir.

**"Please join me in observing a moment of
silence in memory of those lost in the tragic
events of September 11, 2001."**

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working on the redistricting initiative looking to redraw the State electoral map. The deadline for the redrawing of the new map of the State boundaries was November 30, 2001. We worked with the committee studying the impact to our community in order to ensure inclusion of Latino communities throughout the State. Staff of the Commission is also working on a Limited English Proficiency Focus Group that is looking at the barriers for clients and service providers in the health field who are

language-limited to ensure that our community receives adequate medical care. We participated in the World Breastfeeding Day Celebration held by the Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford the first week in August.

From a legislative standpoint, we were able to gain additional funds towards training for court interpreters as well as for further asthma research. We were also able to advocate for an immigrant rights bill that passed in the last legislative ses-

sion. We are in the process of finetuning our legislative agenda for this legislative session and hope to hear from you regarding areas of interest to the Latino community.

Thank you all for your support and participation in our events and I look forward to an even more successful 2002. I wish you all a healthy, safe and very Happy New Year!

Hasta la Próxima.

Fernando Betancourt

Continued from page 1

Given what our country had just been through, this was a very moving part of the evening for us and those present.

The Commission also co-sponsored a Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration in conjunction with the Connecticut National Guard, the United States Postal Service and the Connecticut Historical Society on October 10th. Three public school youth were recognized for academic achievement that day. Brigadier General I.J. Zembruski of the Connecticut National Guard and Kathleen Felsted of the United States Postal Service presented the awards to the students. These are: Melissa Jacques, East Hartford High School; Sujeilly Rivera, Burns School in Hartford; and Johnattan A. Leon, West Rocks Middle School in Norwalk. Fernando Betancourt, LPRAC Executive Director, was the keynote speaker. The ceremony began with a presentation of the flags by the Connecticut National Guard Honor Guard. A special presentation of the "Talking Flag" was held along with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner by Sgt. Ivan Anglero of the Connecticut Air National Guard. After the awards presentation, attendees were treated



L-R - Debra Borrero, Community Relations Representative at Trinity College receiving the Oxygen Media Leadership Award from State Comptroller Nancy Wyman on November 14, 2001.

to typical Spanish cuisine and music.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 28, 2002 when we will host our Fifth Annual Gala Awards Banquet at the Mohegan Sun Resort in Uncasville, Connecticut.

The Commission is gearing up for a short legislative session and is in the process of preparing a legislative agenda for presentation during the session that began on February 6, 2002. If you have an idea or concern about an area that you feel is not receiving sufficient attention within the Latino community, please call the office and share it with us. Your input is valued and always welcome.

The Reflecting Connecticut initiative continues to gain momentum and various organizational newsletters including the YWCA and CWEALF included information related to the project.

The Commission held its election of officers at the November 28, 2001 meeting. The following commissioners were elected to serve on the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission's Executive Committee: Dr. Julián Nieves, Vice Chairperson, Ramón Serbia, Treasurer and Américo Santiago, Secretary. I was elected as the new Chairperson of the Commission, a position I accepted with pride. We would like to thank Mrs. Maritza Tirú for her unwavering leadership throughout the past year. We have accomplished a great deal this past year and I look forward to an even more successful year 2002. While we toil away to make new and bigger strides on behalf of our community, we realize that it is that same community joining hands with us that makes our work a success. I thank you for the support you have given the Commission throughout this past year and wish all of you a very healthy and prosperous New Year.

Cordially,

Carlos Vázquez

Legislative Update

by Werner Oyanadel

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission (LPRAC) is in the process of finishing our Commission's *2002 Legislative Agenda*. We anticipate having the final document reviewed and approved by the Commission by the middle of December in order to have it ready for the start of the State of Connecticut's 2002 Legislative Session, which will begin on February 6 and end on May 8, 2002. Once the Legislative Session is in progress, we identify Legislative proposals consistent with the Commission's mandate and determine their priority for Commission action.

We shall, however, continue to focus on all socio-economic areas that affect our community and hope to tap on your expertise in any of these areas. Furthermore, we would be honored if you would be willing to testify on behalf of our body of legislation when it becomes available at the beginning of 2002. Please contact me at (860) 240-0097 if you would like to add your name to our Commission's e-mail **Testimony List**.



Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission
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SPRING ISSUE

Latino Youth Leadership Institute held on Friday, March 1, 2002 - There was participation from at least 18 Connecticut colleges and universities.

Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers receives Chapter of the Year Award.

Prominent Latina woman receives "Latina of the Year Award" from large New York Hispanic Newspaper.

Look for these and other articles of interest in our Spring issue available in May 2002.

THE LATINO & PUERTO RICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION Co-Sponsored Events Upcoming Activities

SAVE THE DATE

Latinos Breaking Barriers Conference

Friday, May 3, 2002

Ramada Inn, Meriden

For More Information, Please contact:

Ada Suarez, Office of Protection and Advocacy
at 860-297-4392.

A special thank you to Moraima Gutiérrez for the photographs used throughout this newsletter, Fernando Betancourt for co-editing and Werner Oyanadel for his technical assistance.

LPRAC's newsletter is published quarterly. Comments and questions may be sent to: Lucy Goicoechea-Hernández
18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106 or e-mail lucy.hernandez@po.state.ct.us